

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS ADDRESSES NATION ON
FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY
TO GREECE

1. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS ADDRESSED THE GREEK PEOPLE THE EVENING OF JULY 23 ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY TO GREECE AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF MILITARY RULE. AFTER INITIAL ASSERTION THAT ANNIVERSARY IS A "DAY OF JOY AND CONFIDENCE FOR ALL", HE REMINDED THE NATION THAT IT MUST ALSO BE "A DAY OF MEDITATION AND RETROSPECTION SINCE DEMOCRACY IS A FORM OF GOVERNMENT REQUIRING CONSCIENTIOUS CITIZENS". HE THEN REVIEWED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST 12 MONTHS WHICH HAD RESULTED IN GREEK DEMOCRACY BECOMING "A LIVING REALITY WITH AN INHERENT DYNAMISM AND CORRESPONDING INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE". HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT "NEVER IN THE PAST HAVE SO MANY THINGS OF SUCH GREAT HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE BEEN ACHIEVED IN GREECE WITHIN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD".

2. THE PRIME MINISTER THEN SOUNDED A CAUTIONARY NOTE
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THAT THE NATION MUST NOT REST CONTENT WITH ITS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND NEGLECT THE TASKS STILL REMAINING. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE CITED AMONG THE "MANY AND DIFFICULT PROBLEMS" STILL FACING GREECE: (1) RELATIONS WITH TURKEY WHICH ARE STILL "IN A DANGEROUS STATE", (2) THE CONTINUING TRAGEDY OF CYPRUS WHICH "IS GOING THROUGH ITS MOST ACUTE PHASE AT THIS MOMENT",

(3) THE ECONOMY WHICH IS FACED WITH SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES AS RESULT OF THE "INCOHERENT POLICY OF THE DICTATORSHIP AND THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RECESSION". ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, HE ADDED, ARE AGGRAVATED BECAUSE OF THE LARGE SUMS THAT MUST BE SPENT ON DEFENSE.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER THEN DIRECTED SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE INTERNAL STATE OF THE NATION AND ISSUED A WORD OF WARNING AGAINST SOCIAL DISORDER AND UNREST. HE ASSERTED THAT THE TWO MOST VALUABLE CONCEPTS WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FUTURE ARE (1) CALM AND (2) SOCIAL AND NATIONAL UNITY. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE PRIME MINISTER NOTED THAT THE NATIONAL CLIMATE HAS BEEN THREATENED RECENTLY BY ORGANIZED MINORITIES WHO HAVE "PROVOKED OR ENCOURAGED UNFOUNDED PROTESTS, UNTIMELY OR EXAGGERATED DEMANDS, STRIKES OFTEN SUPPORTED BY ANARCHISTS ACTION, AND DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH ARE UNJUSTIFIED AND CONTRARY TO CIVIC ORDER". THE PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THESE ACTIVITIES CONSTITUTE "ONLY TEMPORARY PHENOMENA", AND THAT SMALL GROUPS WHICH PROVOKE SUCH SOCIAL UNREST WILL COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR POLICY ENDANGERS THEM AND NATIONAL INTERESTS. IF NOT, THE PRIME MINISTER ASSERTED THEY "WILL HAVE TO BE ISOLATED BY HEALTHY FORCES OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE AWARE OF THEIR TRUE INTERESTS AND WHO KNOW THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO NATION AS A WHOLE".

4. IN CONCLUSION THE PRIME MINISTER CALLED ON THE GREEK PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE NATION. HE STATED THAT DISCIPLINED WORK, ENTHUSIASM AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED. HE ASSERTED FINALLY THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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"THIS IS A TIME FOR GIVING AND NOT FOR TAKING".
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